

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for her examination of the present application and allowance of claims 1-18. Claim 1 has been amended to correct a minor informality ("the second direction" at line 7 has been corrected to "a second direction").

In section 6, the Examiner acknowledges that claims 25-32 and 36 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The limitation of claim 26 has been incorporated into its base claim (claim 19). Claim 25 has been rewritten in independent form. Thus, claims 19 and 25 are now in allowable form. Claims 20-24, 26-39 and 42-43 are also in allowable form, at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 19 or claim 25. New claims 42-43 are identical with claims 20-21, except that they are dependent from claim 25.

Upon amendment, this application will have three independent claims (claims 1, 19 and 25) and 41 total claims (claims 1-39 and 42-43). When this application was filed, official fees were paid for 21 excess claims. Thus, no additional official fee for excess claims is necessary.

In sections 1-3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 40-41 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. This rejection is now moot because claims 40-41 have been canceled.

Disagreement matter of record

In section 8, the Examiner rejects claims 19-24 and 33-35 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Folkmer (New Designs of Micromachined Vibrating Rate Gyroscopes with Decoupled Oscillation Modes 1997 pp. 1129-1132). The Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection and wish to make their disagreement a matter of record.

The Applicants believe that Folkmer does not teach all limitations of original claim 19, for example, "the connection arrangement having a first stiffness in the first direction and a second stiffness in a second direction substantially perpendicular to the first direction, the first stiffness being significantly greater than the second stiffness".

However, being desirous to conserve time and funds, the Applicants agree to adopt the Examiner's recommendations. The Applicants understand that claims 25-32 and 36 will be allowed if re-written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base and intervening claims.

The Applicants reserve the right to seek protection for any unclaimed subject matter either subsequently in the prosecution of the present case or in a divisional or continuation application.

The Applicants have attempted to address all of the issues raised by the Examiner in the Office Action as the Applicants understand them. The Applicants believe that the Application is now in condition for allowance. If any point requires further explanation, the Examiner is invited to telephone

Troy Cai at (323) 934-2300 or e-mail Troy Cai at tcai@ladasparry.com.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account No. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.


Enclosed please find a copy of Troy Guangyu Cai's Notice of Limited Recognition under 35 CFR 10.9(b) to prepare and prosecute patent applications wherein the patent applicant is a client of Ladas & Parry, and the attorney of record in the applications is a registered practitioner who is a member of Ladas & Parry.

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(Date of Deposit)

Troy Guangyu Cai

(Name of Person Signing)



(Signature)

12/30/2003

(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



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